

**Senator David G. Buxton** proposes the following substitute bill:

**AMERICAN INDIAN-ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH OFFICE**

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Jani Iwamoto**

House Sponsor: Christine F. Watkins

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill moves the American Indian-Alaska Native Affairs Health Office from the Department of Health to the Department of Health and Human Services.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- moves the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Office and the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison from the Department of Health to the Department of Health and Human Services; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**9-9-104.6**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 184 and 282

RENUMBERS AND AMENDS:

**26B-2-1**, (Renumbered from 26-7-2.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter



26 236)

27 

---

---

28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **9-9-104.6** is amended to read:

30 **9-9-104.6. Participation of state agencies in meetings with tribal leaders --**

31 **Contact information.**

32 (1) For at least three of the joint meetings described in Subsection [9-9-104.5\(2\)\(a\)](#), the  
33 division shall coordinate with representatives of tribal governments and the entities listed in  
34 Subsection (2) to provide for the broadest participation possible in the joint meetings.

35 (2) The following may participate in all meetings described in Subsection (1):

36 (a) the chairs of the Native American Legislative Liaison Committee created in Section  
37 [36-22-1](#);

38 (b) the governor or the governor's designee;

39 (c) the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison appointed in accordance with  
40 Section [~~26-7-2.5~~] [26B-2-1](#);

41 (d) the American Indian-Alaska Native Public Education Liaison appointed in  
42 accordance with Section [53F-5-604](#); and

43 (e) a representative appointed by the chief administrative officer of the following:

44 (i) the Department of Human Services;

45 (ii) the Department of Natural Resources;

46 (iii) the Department of Workforce Services;

47 (iv) the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity;

48 (v) the State Board of Education; and

49 (vi) the Utah Board of Higher Education.

50 (3) (a) The chief administrative officer of the agencies listed in Subsection (3)(b) shall:

51 (i) designate the name of a contact person for that agency that can assist in coordinating  
52 the efforts of state and tribal governments in meeting the needs of the Native Americans  
53 residing in the state; and

54 (ii) notify the division:

55 (A) who is the designated contact person described in Subsection (3)(a)(i); and

56 (B) of any change in who is the designated contact person described in Subsection

57 (3)(a)(i).

58 (b) This Subsection (3) applies to:

59 (i) the Department of Agriculture and Food;

60 (ii) the Department of Cultural and Community Engagement;

61 (iii) the Department of Corrections;

62 (iv) the Department of Environmental Quality;

63 (v) the Department of Public Safety;

64 (vi) the Department of Transportation;

65 (vii) the Office of the Attorney General;

66 (viii) the State Tax Commission; and

67 (ix) any agency described in Subsections (2)(c) through (e).

68 (c) At the request of the division, a contact person listed in Subsection (3)(b) may  
69 participate in a meeting described in Subsection (1).

70 (4) (a) A participant under this section who is not a legislator may not receive  
71 compensation or benefits for the participant's service, but may receive per diem and travel  
72 expenses as allowed in:

73 (i) Section 63A-3-106;

74 (ii) Section 63A-3-107; and

75 (iii) rules made by the Division of Finance according to Sections 63A-3-106 and  
76 63A-3-107.

77 (b) Compensation and expenses of a participant who is a legislator are governed by  
78 Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Legislative Compensation and Expenses.

79 Section 2. Section 26B-2-1, which is renumbered from Section 26-7-2.5 is renumbered  
80 and amended to read:

## 81 CHAPTER 2. PROGRAMS

82 ~~[26-7-2.5].~~ **26B-2-1. American Indian-Alaska Native Health Office -- Duties.**

83 (1) As used in this section:

84 (a) "Health care" means care, treatment, service, or a procedure to improve, maintain,  
85 diagnose, or otherwise affect an individual's physical or mental condition.

86 (b) "Liaison" means the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison appointed  
87 under this section.

(2) The executive director shall:

(a) establish an office to address health care of Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native population on and off reservations; and

(b) appoint an individual as the American Indian-Alaska Native Health Liaison who serves as the administrative head of the office under the supervision of the executive director.

(3) The office shall on behalf of the executive director and the department:

(a) promote and coordinate collaborative efforts between the department and Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native population to improve the availability and accessibility of quality health care impacting Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native populations on and off reservations;

(b) interact with the following to improve health disparities for Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native populations:

(i) tribal health programs;

(ii) local health departments;

(iii) state agencies and officials; and

(iv) providers of health care in the private sector;

(c) facilitate education, training, and technical assistance regarding public health and medical assistance programs to Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native populations; and

(d) staff an advisory board by which Utah's tribes may consult with state and local agencies for the development and improvement of public health programs designed to address improved health care for Utah's American Indian-Alaska Native populations on and off the reservation.

(4) The liaison shall annually report the office's activities and accomplishments to the Native American Legislative Liaison Committee created in Section [36-22-1](#).

**Section 3. Effective date.**

This bill takes effect on July 1, 2022.